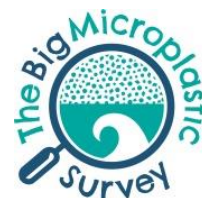


THE BIG MICROPLASTIC SURVEY

DATA RECORDING FORM



Name: _____ Date: _____

Organisation (if applicable): _____

Project Registration Number (provided when you registered): _____

Survey Site Name/Location: _____

GPS Coordinates of survey site (decimal format is preferred): _____

Describe the site being surveyed (e.g. soft sand, coarse sand, shingle interspersed with pebbles):


Number of volunteers undertaking the survey: _____


Your details will be held on our secure database. We will not sell or share your details for any purpose.


This form is intended to be used for one survey; 5 x 1m quadrats each containing 5 x 10cm samples. Please use additional recording forms if you are surveying more than one sample area. When you upload your data it will automatically be given a unique reference number.


Primary Microplastics (1mm – 5mm)

Round/Spherical Nurdles	Colour	Number of pieces
 <p>Smooth sided, no straight edges. Often not perfectly spherical due to erosion.</p>	White	
	Clear/Opaque	
	Black	
	Yellow	
	Green	
	Grey	
	Blue	
	Red	
	Pink	
	Orange	

Cylindrical Nurdles	Colour	Number of pieces
 <p>Distinct cylindrical shape, smooth sides and flat ends without ridges.</p>	White	
	Clear/Opaque	
	Black	
	Yellow	
	Green	
	Grey	
	Blue	
	Red	
	Orange	

Disk Shaped Nurdles	Colour	Number of pieces
 <p>Look like flat disks or lentils. Come in a variety of colours. Some are smooth while some have a small indentation in the centre.</p>	White	
	Clear/Opaque	
	Black	
	Yellow	
	Green	
	Grey	
	Blue	
	Red	
	Pink	
	Orange	


Cube Shaped Nurdles	Colour	Number of pieces
 <p>Often not a perfect cube shaped, sometimes more rectangular or with irregular shaped edges. Usually clear or opaque.</p>	White	
	Clear/Opaque	
	Black	
	Yellow	
	Green	
	Grey	
	Blue	
	Red	
	Pink	
	Orange	

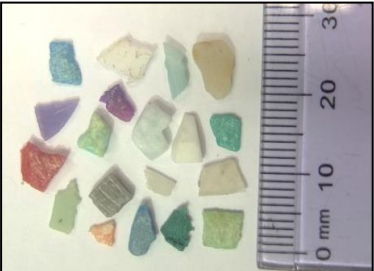
Bio Beads	Colour	Number of pieces
 <p>Bio beads look very similar to cylindrical nurdles, except the sides have very distinct thin ridges, making them look like they have been squashed.</p>	White	
	Clear/Opaque	
	Black	
	Yellow	
	Green	
	Grey	
	Blue	
	Red	
	Pink	
	Orange	

Other Primary Microplastics


'Other' Primary Microplastics	Colour	Number of pieces
 <p data-bbox="108 589 549 680">Other pieces of plastic that are primary (made in a small size and intact), for example fishing beads, and small Lego</p>	White	
	Clear/Opaque	
	Black	
	Yellow	
	Green	
	Grey	
	Blue	
	Red	
	Pink	
	Orange	


Secondary Microplastics (1mm – 5mm)

Expanded Polystyrene	Type	Number of pieces
 <p data-bbox="108 1211 549 1339">Soft balls of polystyrene, or pieces from cups and packaging. Very soft and compress under pressure. Often look flat.</p>	EPS Balls = a single ball (round or flat).	
	EPS Pieces = two or more balls joined together, or any larger piece	

'Other' Secondary Microplastics	Colour	Number of pieces
 <p data-bbox="108 1798 549 1933">Fragments of larger items. Can be any colour. Not recognisable as a particular object. Often irregular and angular shape.</p>	White	
	Clear/Opaque	
	Black	
	Yellow	
	Green	
	Grey	
	Blue	
	Red	
	Pink	
	Orange	

Mesoplastics (5mm – 25mm)

Primary Mesoplastics	Colour	Number of pieces
 <p>Recognisable and whole items. For example, bottle tops, rawl plugs, toothpaste caps, bottle rings</p>	White	
	Clear/Opaque	
	Black	
	Yellow	
	Green	
	Grey	
	Blue	
	Red	
	Pink	
	Orange	

Secondary Mesoplastics	Colour	Number of pieces
 <p>Pieces that have broken off from something bigger. They have irregular shapes, very often angular. Found in a variety of colours.</p>	White	
	Clear/Opaque	
	Black	
	Yellow	
	Green	
	Grey	
	Blue	
	Red	
	Pink	
	Orange	

What's Next?

First of all it is a big **THANK YOU** from us for being involved in The Big Microplastic Survey. We hope you have enjoyed the experience and will feel like doing more surveys in the future. If you took any photos of your survey, please send them to us so that we can post them onto our social media pages and recognise what you have done.

Upload your Data

Once you have completed this form(s) please upload the data onto the data app by going to this link: <http://bit.ly/surveydata>

Photographs

Photographs are a really important part of this project, so please spread your sample out on a piece of paper, take a photograph and upload it using the data app. Remember to include a scale in the picture – a ruler is great but a coin will also do. Please write the survey reference number on the piece of paper so that we can link it with your survey form.

We want your samples

Because there are so many different types of plastic and they all have very similar properties the only way to find out what they are is by further testing in the laboratory. For this reason we would really like to have your samples.

If you are able to put the samples in an envelope and send them to us by post that would be really appreciated. Unfortunately we are not in a position to reimburse the cost of postage.

The postal address to send sample to is:

David Jones
The Big Microplastic Survey
School of Environment, Geography and Geosciences
University of Portsmouth
Burnaby Road
Portsmouth, PO1 3QL
United Kingdom

Please remember to write your survey reference number on the envelope if you do send them.

Finally ...

In order for this citizen science research project to be successful it relies on volunteers. Please let your friends and colleagues know about the project and encourage them to take part.

Many thanks once again for all of your help

Best wishes

The Big Microplastic Survey Team

